

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

APPLICANT: Rockville Community Ministries

PROJECT: Latino Outreach and Naturalization Program

AMOUNT: \$25,000

TYPE: Public Service

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Latino Outreach Program (LOP) targets new members of the Latino community to provide basic English and workplace instruction, to support participants with the US naturalization process, and with school readiness training using a family centered approach.

Funds are requested to operate English as a second language classes, school readiness training, tutoring, and naturalization training and assistance to new members of the Rockville Latino Community. The program is presently conducted in three school sites; Twinbrook, Meadow Hall, and Maryvale Elementary Schools. Classes are also offered at Crusader Lutheran Church, Rockville United Church, and Twinbrook Baptist Church. Classes are offered at these six sites on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

The Latino Outreach Program was originally operated in classrooms provided by churches in the Twinbrook area. The program was expanded to include classes at the Twinbrook Elementary School, Meadow Hall Elementary School and Maryvale Elementary School. Approximately 150 adults and 100 children will benefit from this program, which also includes child tutoring and childcare for program participants.

In addition to English assistance classes, the program will provide assistance through the naturalization process at churches throughout the community and will offer U. S. Citizenship classes to help participants prepare for the citizenship examination. It will also serve as a point of referral for other social services.